

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Armored Force Training Center at Josefov	DATE DISTR.	14 April 1953
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. A training center for tank commanders, gunners and loaders of the First Military District (Prague District) is located in the former cavalry barracks 500 meters southwest of Josefov (O 51/G 82) on the road to Vlkov. Special training in firing techniques is given here. Training courses last for two weeks and each class consists of from 100 to 200 men. 25X1
2. The training center is run by a training unit of about 200 men which is subordinate to the Armored Force Inspectorate of the Ministry of National Defense. The commandant of the school is Colonel Kohout (fnu). [redacted]
3. Training is done with the Soviet T-34, JS-II and JS-III tanks and Soviet assault guns. The center is equipped with eight 45-ton JS-II and JS-III heavy tanks, 12 32-ton T-34 medium tanks, and six [redacted] tanks. 25X1
4. Especial emphasis is placed on night-firing exercises, with firing being done by the illumination provided by flare shells fired from tanks.
5. The firing range is located in a wooded area of about 800 hectares in size and at a distance of three kilometers from the barracks. The range has six lanes (Schiessbahnen), the longest of which is about two kilometers in length.
6. About 60 meters northwest of the former forester's hut, which at present is occupied by a command post of the training center, there are five firing points. Three of these consist of tank turrets armed with small-caliber weapons; the other two consist of T-34 and JS-II tank turrets with the corresponding armament. The turrets are driven by electric motors.
7. The ammunition dump of the school is 150 meters north of the former forester's hut. It contains artillery shells and machine-gun ammunition. It consists of 16 small tile huts with metal roofs.
8. The fuel dump of the school is in the barracks area. The barracks area is surrounded by a stone wall two meters high.

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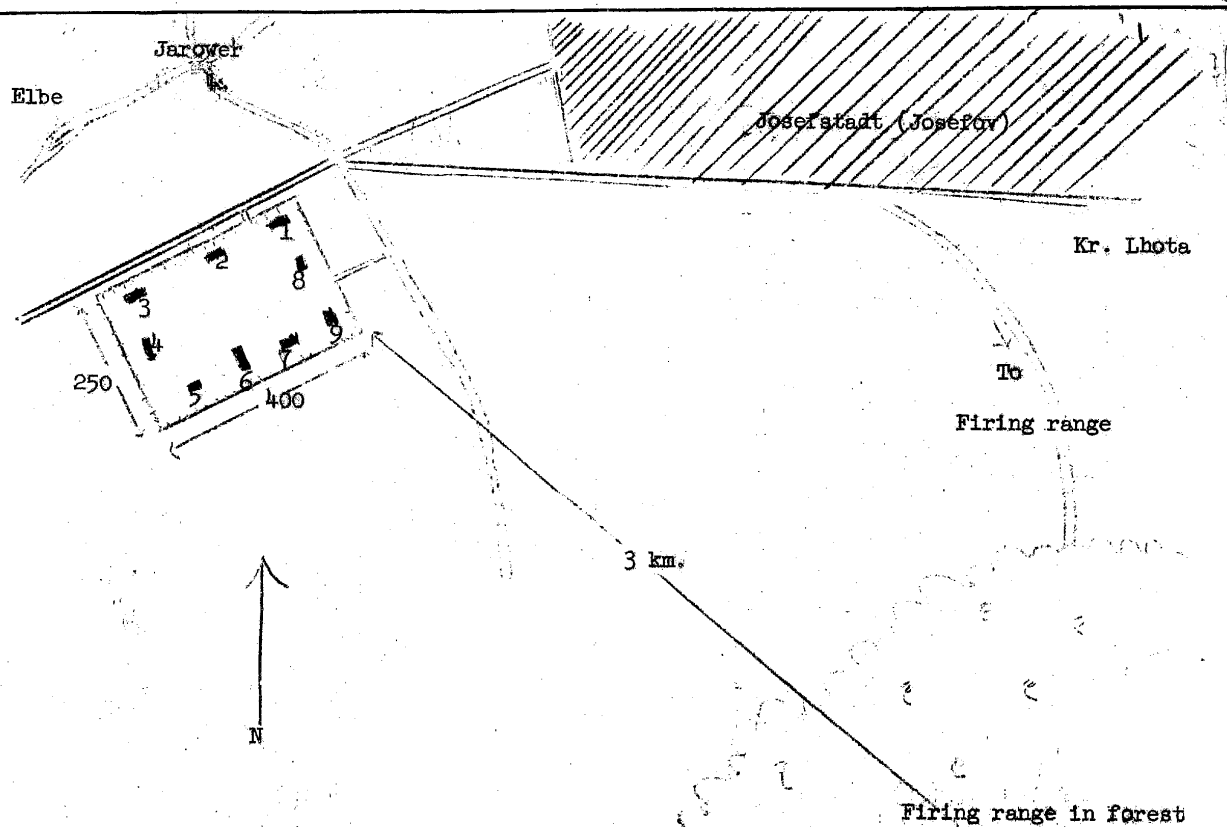
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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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Sketch of the Armored Force Training Center at JosefovLegend

- 1, 2, and 3. Living quarters, one-story buildings.
- 4. Tank garage, one-story building.
- 5. Mechanical shop and fuel storage.
- 6. Gymnasium and classroom.
- 7. Kitchen and messhall.
- 8. Maintenance section and storage.
- 9. Storehouse.

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